

Message Text

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14

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----- 007903

R 082326Z AUG 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USIRJC, EGEN, IR, US

SUBJECT:WASHINGTON POST STORY ON IRAN INVESTMENT CLIMATE

1. AUGUST 6 WASHINGTON POST FRONTPAGES ANDREW BOROWIEC
STORY ON IRAN ANTI-INFLATION CAMPAIGN. STORY NOTES
QUOTE CONSIDERABLE WAVERING OF FOREIGN CONFIDENCE IN
IRAN'S ECONOMIC FUTURE UNQUOTE AND CITES FOREIGN FIRMS'
CONCERN OVER NEW PUBLIC OWNERSHIP LAW, AS WELL AS
OVER GOI BUDGET TRIMMING AND TRANSPORT AND MANPOWER
BOTTLENECKS. ACCORDING STORY, NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN
SUSPENDED ON SIX U.S.-IRAN JOINT VENTURE PROJECTS,
WITH IRAN NO LONGER VIEWED AS QUOTE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY
UNQUOTE FOR U.S. BUSINESS. STORY CONCLUDES WITH
REFERENCE TO HUDSON INSTITUTE QUOTE PARIS LETTER UNQUOTE
DESCRIBING IRAN ECONOMY AS FRAGILE AND NOTING THAT
IRAN'S PRINCIPLE NON-OIL EXPORT REMAINS PERSIAN CARPET.

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2. BOTH COMMERCE AND STATE HAVE HAD BUSINESS INQUIRIES

ABOUT STORY, ASKING HOW TRADE AND INVESTMENT OPTIMISM
SURROUNDING MARCH JOINT COMMISSION MEETING COULD STILL BE
WARRANTED.

3. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN EMBASSY ASSESSMENT OF THIS
REPORT.

4. POUCHING STORY TO BREWIN. KISSINGER

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